

race, Fonseca v. Am. Nat'l Red Cross, Case No. 3:20-cv-620-RJC-DSC; because of his age, id.; and because he complained about sexual harassment, id. Indeed, in another lawsuit filed by Plaintiff, on November 4, 2021, Magistrate Judge David Cayer recommended that this Court issue a pre-filing injunction against Plaintiff as a vexatious litigant. See Memorandum & Recommendation, Fonseca v. Am. Nat'l Red Cross, No. 3:20-CV-526-RJC-DSC, (W.D.N.C. Nov. 4, 2021) (Doc. No 13).

In this lawsuit, Plaintiff alleges that the Union, despite fighting for his reinstatement on two separate occasions, was unlawfully targeting him for mistreatment. Defendant contends that Plaintiff's complaint fails to state a claim for relief and has therefore filed the pending motion for judgment on the pleadings.

In response to the motion for judgment on the pleadings, Plaintiff asserts that if the Court is inclined to grant Defendant's motion for judgment on the pleadings, then he would like an opportunity to amend his Complaint. Defendants argue that the Court should not allow Plaintiff to amend his Complaint because any amendment would be futile because "Plaintiff's claims are both time-barred and squarely defeated by the Arbitrator's award."

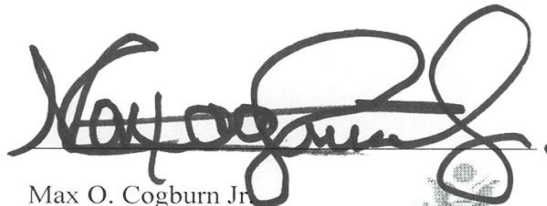
Leave to amend should be denied "when the amendment would be prejudicial to the opposing party, there has been bad faith on the part of the moving party, or the amendment would have been futile." Johnson v. Oroweat Foods Co., 785 F.2d 503, 509 (4th Cir. 1986). The Court has read the parties' briefs, and it does appear that Plaintiff's action is subject to dismissal for the reasons stated in Defendant's brief. Nevertheless, in an abundance of caution, the Court will allow Plaintiff to amend his Complaint once.

Therefore, Plaintiff shall have thirty days to amend his Complaint. If Plaintiff fails to file an Amended Complaint within the time period, the Court will address Defendant's pending

motion for judgment on the pleadings based on the allegations in the original Complaint.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed: January 25, 2022



Max O. Cogburn Jr.
United States District Judge